

A circular black and white stamp. The text "OIPE" is at the top, "JG117" is on the right, "MAY 24 2001" is in the center, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom.

I hereby certify that this document and its attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, "Express Mail" service, as Express Mail No. EL357889729US in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 24th day of May 2001.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

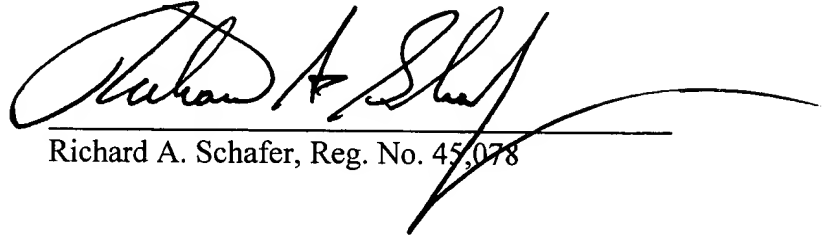
[illegible]

Attorney Docket No.: H053854.0001US0

No fee is required because the Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2435.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Schafer", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Richard A. Schafer, Reg. No. 45,078

Date:

5/24/01

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